

ALL Communications and letters relating to business, should be addressed to THE ENTERPRISE.

There can be scarcely a doubt remaining that a small band of Apache Indians are raiding among the settlements of northern Sonora and committing the usual depredations. They doubtless comprise the few Indians who refused to surrender at the time Geronimo and his band were taken by General Miles, with the addition of several outlaws from the reservation—possibly the murderers of Sheriff Reynolds and Deputy Holmes. Pursuit of these raiders has been organized by the Governor of Sonora, but there is little hope of their capture, or even annoyance, by reason of the advantages the savages enjoy of eluding the troops. This small legacy of our government's policy in dealing with the Apaches may possibly lead to a future bill of damages by Mexico against the United States, and any claim they may make will scarcely be considered unjust. So long as these treacherous and bloodthirsty bands are harbored and protected near the haunts of their kindred, the lives and property of the settlers are exposed to the most serious and international dangers. The government should, at this time, take the only course open to it, and that is the complete removal from the territory.

The famous fraudulent Peralta grant that threatened to despoil the settlers of their homes upon the fair-est portion of Arizona, has been ordered stricken from the docket of the Surveyor General by Commissioner Groff, of the general land office. This is a proper proceeding so far as it goes, but does not prevent the revocation of the order by some future commissioner. The claimants of this attempted steal relinquished all endeavors to secure favorable action upon their alleged claim, long ago, and are concentrating their efforts to the establishment of a land court which they hope to control. They can, at least, secure standing in a court unopposed to their interests, upon an affidavit of the character they seem to possess the pre-nuptial right to prevent, and this will place them in a position to annoy the settlers and levy blackmail at their pleasure. The present ruling is the first blood for settlers, but there are several hard rounds yet to be contested before the claimants are ready to throw up the sponge.

In 1873, at the beginning of the session of the Seventh Legislative Assembly of Arizona, the territorial treasury contained \$16,000 in cash with not a dollar of indebtedness. At that time the school fund had a surplus of \$5,000, and the finances of the territory were in a healthier and better condition than at any time since. The recent announcement from Washington that the new funding bill will place Arizona upon a better financial footing than at any previous time in its history, therefore the silliest kind of misrepresentation. The extension of our note of hand, as it were, for fifty years at a lower rate of interest does not dispose of the principal of our indebtedness, and therefore our financial condition will be merely improved temporarily by this act of Congress. Subsequent generations will take the load off our shoulders.

When one considers the vast grist that annually goes into hopper of the congressional mill, and the little that comes out in a perfected form, the conclusion is irresistibly reached that our national lawmakers carry to it more chaff than grain. By the time a measure has encountered the friction of an almost unrecognizable shape. The accumulation of wasted energy and effort in our congressional halls in volumes of musty Congressional records bear mute but indisputable evidence, and our great men must be given some harmless vent for the ebullitions of their genius.

Gov. WOLFEY deemed the legislation after the lawful sixty days' session to be sufficiently legal to give his appointees chair title to their respective official positions, but it was appalling to observe when a constitutional convention was required. Its "Budd" construction was such a welfare of the people that he made a special pilgrimage to Washington to secure the congressional specific for our political ills. The consistency of his action is highly conspicuous.

The confirmation of Hon. R. E. Sloan, of Florence, as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona, after a bitter personal and political opposition, is a matter of extreme congratulation to his friends and supporters, which includes all the decent element in the Territory. He comes forth from the crucial test unscathed and fully vindicated in every point advanced by his detractors. We believe his record will be one of singular purity and impartiality, and that future honors will fall thickly upon him.

The Tucson Star attributes the rise in Salt river by which the railroad bridge was greatly damaged, to the bursting of the Walnut Grove reservoir dam. Inasmuch as the latter was built on the Hassayampa, that empties into the Gila fifty miles below Phoenix, grave questions are raised as to the ability of the geographical genius of the Star to properly diagnose the situation wherein such a volume of cold water is involved.

There are rumors of new journalistic ventures at Phoenix and at Har-Verde. The printer steps in to make a large claim for to trade.

It is a significant fact bearing upon the future prosperity of Arizona, that several of the great railway companies of the eastern systems are seeking outlets to the Pacific coast through this Territory. They desire to avoid the heavy grades and deep snows of the Rocky mountains and to secure routes practically devoid of natural obstacles to building and operating their lines. Of these several lines one or more will surely discover the great advantages of traversing the wonderfully rich valley of the Gila river that extends across Arizona from New Mexico to the Colorado river. This route will present to the traveler ever changing and beautiful scenery with perennial verdure that contrasts strongly with the barren desert plains through which existing roads pass, while frequent prosperous settlements will create a favorable impression upon the traveler of our beautiful Territory. Such a road will command a local traffic of no small proportions, for the richest agricultural and mining sections in the southwest are tributary thereto. These several railroads must choose one of two routes—either across the hills of the northern plateau parallel with the Atlantic & Pacific road, or the level plain south of the Gila river. There is no intermediate route practicable for a road extending across the Territory, consequently the advantages possessed by the latter will likely induce builders to select it. When the great trunk lines are extended to the Pacific coast the settlements upon the Gila river are reasonably certain to secure one of them.

The destruction of the great dam of the Walnut Grove Water Storage Company and the consequent loss of life, is a calamity whose responsibility must rest upon the company under whose orders the weak and inefficient structure was built. The statement of Luther Wagner, a mining engineer of San Francisco, who superintended the work of construction for a short time, shows that the plans were faulty and the materials of poor quality, and that the negligently economy enforced in the use of such expensive materials as cement, rendered the structure insecure from its very foundation. Mr. Wagner reported these facts to the president of the company and protested against the slipshod manner in which the work was being done, but without effect, and he thereupon resigned his position. At that time he found the dam in a leaky condition and predicted its ultimate collapse. Under the exercise of such criminal carelessness the heavy responsibility for the loss of so many human lives must rest upon the company and they should be held liable therefor, providing the statements of Wagner are true. By their method of construction they invited the pecuniary loss they have sustained, but the sympathy of the people will go out only to the innocent sufferers whom the angry waters have deprived of protection and support.

In making improvements upon their land under the Florence canal the settlers are met with a conflict of surveys which is very annoying and somewhat expensive if one happens to adopt the defective survey. The old original corner stakes, likely set in a careless manner, have nearly all disappeared and in their absence the lines must be run from some authenticated monument according to the field notes on file with the Surveyor General. The present difficulty has doubtless arisen from beginning one of the surveys at a stake placed by some one in a wrong position and the error can be easily rectified through a joint revision by the local surveyors, both of whom are fully competent in their line. This is a duty they owe to those who employed them in making the surveys and to their own reputations for accuracy, and they should jointly go over the work so far as to re-establish enough of the official corners to furnish a proper basis for the field work. If this is not done now a great deal of dissatisfaction and possibly expensive litigation will result.

A LETTER received from Delegate Mark A. Smith by Hon. P. R. Brady, of this place, states that in spite of his determined opposition he very much favors the bill establishing a court for the determination of private land grants will become a law. The bill is undoubtedly a good one for the settlement of genuine grants, but the real danger lies in its availability by the claimants of such alleged grants as the Peralta fraud to cast a cloud upon titles and then levy blackmail, and it is upon this ground alone that the people of this valley oppose it. The Peralta fraud is dead in the general land office but its corpse can be easily galvanized into a most lively speck in a land court. We believe this measure is being engineered principally for the benefit of persons who are interested in the Peralta scheme, and if our delegates can succeed in exempting Arizona from its provisions we feel firmly convinced that the bill will not be pushed to a final passage.

One of the most selfish grounds of opposition to the extending of government aid in reclaiming the arid regions of the west is that given by a senator from a state bordering upon the Mississippi river, who stated that there is still sufficient vacant land within the middle and western states for settlers without going out to the Pacific coast and spending money to make the country habitable. He is one of those narrow, sectional bigots who first want to gorge his own paunch before permitting his neighbor to get a crumb from the public table. Out here in Arizona they grow animals of his nature upon alfalfa fields and convert them into a fair article of bacon. His vote is always ready upon an appropriation for the improvement of thunder-shower creek or a mud slough in his own state, but his vision cannot penetrate the needs that exist beyond its eastern limits.

In pursuit of the World's Fair, Chicago "got there with both feet," and everybody understands the size of Chicago feet.

It will doubtless be somewhat embarrassing to Adeline Patti, the "Queen of Song," to learn that her most brilliant efforts have been captured by an enterprising owner of a soulless phonograph who will reproduce her choicest airs for the enjoyment of the cosmopolitan crowds of a dime museum. The phonograph was smuggled into the hall during her recent season in San Francisco and by securing a favorable position it succeeded in faithfully reproducing every tone she uttered. Those whose financial circumstances forbade the luxury of listening to the melody of the famous prima donna can now revel in her sweet tones without plunging himself into bankruptcy. Blessed be the genius of Edison and the speculative ingenuity of the wide-awake yankee!

The stockmen of Arizona are considerably exercised over the bill recently introduced in Congress by some lunatic requiring the payment of one dollar per head per year for cattle grazing upon public land. This sum far exceeds the value of most of the land used for grazing purposes and, together with the usual taxes, would oppress that industry out of existence. The bill, if it should chance to become a law, would be practically impossible without the aid of a small army of government spies termed "special agents," who would absorb nearly the whole sum realized by this unjust tax by the United States. The use of these lands by stockmen do them no injury whatever and there is no good reason why this industry should be singled out for government oppression.

The nominations of J. H. Kibbey to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona and H. R. Jeffords, to be U. S. Attorney, have been confirmed by the senate. This action was fully expected by all who understood the nature of the fight made upon them and it is as gratifying to their friends as it is humiliating to their enemies. Judge Kibbey and Attorney Jeffords are both eminently qualified for the respective positions they occupy and their selection was no mistake upon the part of the appointing power.

ANOTHER Arizona journalist has been honored by the present administration in the appointment of J. C. Martin, of Prescott Journal-Miner, to be Register of the U. S. land office at that place. Mr. Martin is fully competent to discharge the duties of the position to which he has been appointed and will give good satisfaction to the people and to the department.

The death of John Jacob Astor is announced. His principal claim to fame was his possession of wealth estimated at two hundred millions of dollars and his chief regret in leaving this world was probably his inability to take it with him. After making a few charitable and private bequests the bulk of his immense fortune goes to his son, William Waldorf Astor.

The House committee on Territories has decided to present a favorable report upon the admission of Idaho to statehood, and the prospect is good for the passage of a bill with that end in view. If the prediction of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat is correct Arizona will be denied admission for at least two long years and possibly longer.

The management of the American Building and Loan Association of Minneapolis contemplates making an assignment of its affairs. As usual the members are promised nearly full liquidation of their claims.

WHO ARE THEY?
Indians Who are Killing Stock in Sonora—Are They the Murderers of Sheriff Reynolds and Holmes?

The following from Mr. Colin Cameron of San Rafael cattle company may give a clue to the whereabouts of the Indian convicts who murdered Sheriff Reynolds and his deputy, W. A. Holmes, last November 2nd.
"At the recent election of the Silver King company, the management of this once famous property was fraudulent and was run by a band of thieves. I know where the Indians are, who killed the Gila County Sheriff and deputy who were taking them to Yuma." "I write about this because on the 18th of February, three days ago, I had stolen from my ranch in Bonanza—a ranch just south of the San Bernardino—sixteen saddle horses, and the bell mare with which they were running for years. The Indians, who shot and drove off the horses, shot and killed one of our saddle horses, also a steer and a fine Hereford steer, and the spot from which they stole the horses was of their own, run down, skin and bone horses—all of them shed with the Indian rawhide moccasins shoe (called in Mexican, "Mocasin").

The Indians were not seen, but from the above facts, the horses shot with fegus, one horse shot, a steer and a hereford killed, seems to point beyond a doubt to the fact that the Indians are in the country.

I mean to say that my men did not see them, but they were seen by a neighbor ranchman, in number at different times from three to ten. The Indians who stole the horses, drove them into that exact place in the Sierra Madre where Geronimo was when Captain Lawton came up with him and held the conference, which led to Geronimo's surrender to General Miles.

I suppose it will be said that the Indians who killed Holmes and Reynolds are yet on the San Carlos. If they are, what the Indians are doing.

THE PERALTA GRANT.

IT IS DECLARED TO BE NO GOOD TITLE.

The Claimants Receive a Setback—Important California Governor by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Special Dispatch to the S. F. Chronicle.
Washington, February 27.—Everybody in California will remember the story of the Peralta grant. The Peralta family is an old one, but in southern California nobody ever dreamed it was entitled to such a great grant. All this changed, however, when a little over a year ago James A. Reavis appeared upon the scene, marrying one of the Peralta girls. Then it was suddenly discovered that by reason of service rendered by some ancestor to the King of Spain, the Peraltas had been granted 4,000,000 acres of the best land in Arizona, the title to which was in the hands of the United States. He got himself interviewed in a number of papers, and the thing created a great stir, particularly in Arizona, where numerous people had taken up claims upon the alleged grant.

Now the whole thing has fallen flat, for the Peralta grant is no more. Reavis has failed to bring up the argument to prevent one or both of the governors from taking action in this matter. The truth in this particular case is that evidence of guilt is a matter of fact, and the Peralta grant is a fraud. The Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West. The Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West. The Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West.

There is every indication that probably before the year 1890 passes into the eternal quietude of the tomb, Phoenix will have one or two new railroads, either completed, or secured entirely on the title of his wife as the lineal descendant and only living heir of Peralta, to whom the King of Spain is said to have given a principality in this land.

"It is the consanguinity and descent set up for Mrs. Reavis a verity which could be established to the satisfaction of a court? It does not so appear from the proof submitted; suspicion surrounds the case as presented at every step from its inception to the present time. The papers claimed as ancient documents and exhibited as instruments of the King of Spain, it is alleged, were found by Reavis among the posthumous effects of one Dr. Willing, are made up of shreds and patches, full of inconsistencies and contradictions, and utterly unworthy of faith or credit.

"That most reprehensible frauds have been attempted in this case by some one at some time I have no doubt. I believe that it is the duty of the people to see that the Peralta grant is a fraud, and that the Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West. The Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West. The Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West.

The presentation of a flag by the Negley Post, G. A. R., to the public school of this city, on Saturday last, was a very interesting event. There was a large gathering of citizens at the school house at one o'clock, who were joined at two o'clock by the Post, which marched from their hall with a band of music. The flag was then presented to the school, and the children of the school were then presented to the flag.

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After Requisitions.

The following appears in the Albuquerque Democrat:

St. Johns, A. T., Feb. 14.
Apache country, Arizona, John New Mexico, on the west, and consequently distant from this section than the sister territory immediately after committing crime.

There are now on file a large number of indictments in the office of the clerk of the district court of a Why against parties who are known to be in New Mexico. The officers of Apache country are now seeking requisitions from the governor of Arizona for some of these parties, and we are credibly informed there is a strong effort being made on the part of one, at least, to prevent our governor from issuing the necessary papers, and also on Governor Prince of New Mexico to prevent him recognizing them in case they are issued.

The spacious and whimsical plea of the governor of New Mexico, being used as an argument to prevent one or both of the governors from taking action in this matter. The truth in this particular case is that evidence of guilt is a matter of fact, and the Peralta grant is a fraud. The Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West. The Peralta family is a well-known family in the East, and the Peralta grant is a well-known grant in the West.

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The Captive Apaches.

The people of Arizona have protested vigorously against the proposition to remove the Apaches now confined at Mount Vernon, Alabama, to Fort Sill, Indian Territory. The society of Arizona Florists asserts that if the Indians are sent to the Indian Territory they will reach their old homes in less than two months, and "protect their old blood career." The Arizona people are right. Why should any more chances be taken with these savages? There are plenty of ways of dealing humanely with the Indians, but the removal of the Apaches to the Indian Territory has been a mistake. The Arizona people are right. Why should any more chances be taken with these savages? There are plenty of ways of dealing humanely with the Indians, but the removal of the Apaches to the Indian Territory has been a mistake.

The vine and fig tree flourish here as in their native Arabia—a growth of from thirty to forty years in one season has been brought to the market in the former, and three or four crops in the same year of the latter, often aggregating twelve hundred pounds to the tree.

Large numbers of orange trees are being planted every year—many of them are already bearing—the fruit being of a superior quality. Olives and almonds are on the market in vast quantities. Dates bear fruit the seventh year from the seed, and bananas have been produced, but the climate is not warm enough to encourage the culture of these fruits.

The profit arising from the cultivation of apricots, peaches, nectarines, pears, almonds, prune, etc., reach from \$200 to \$500 per acre annually. Strawberries are on the market in January, continuing until May. Apricots, peaches and figs are plentiful May 1st, and grapes will be ripe by the middle of the same month.

Fresh vegetables are on the market here throughout the year. The writer has eaten watermelons and tomatoes fresh from the vines at a picnic dinner here on Christmas day.

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The Tucson Star states, on what it claims to be reliable authority, that a townsfolk located on the Sonora line, about fifteen miles from Bisbee, were soon materialized into a living, acting, throbbing town of about 150 families. The town is now known as the Scotch Colony.

The country has already sent the tools and machinery for the sinking of artesian wells, and as the location is in the Sulphur Spring valley there is more than an even chance that the water will be found. The Scotch Colony is now a thriving town of about 150 families.

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What Irrigation has Done For Salt River Valley.

The valley of Salt River occupies the central portion of Arizona Territory; it is bounded by rugged mountain chains, and is watered by the Salt River, which flows into the Colorado river. This valley embraces an area of nearly a half million acres, only about 75,000 acres of which have yet been reclaimed under cultivation. The soil has a depth of from ten to twenty feet, being an alluvial mould near the river, becoming more sandy as you near the hills. The strip bordering the mountains is of a light sandy character, specially adapted to the cultivation of fruits. The neighboring hills protect this strip from rapid changes of temperature, sheltering the crops from frost, which is the central portion of the valley in January and February, and is so fatal to the production of citrus fruit.

Resting on the isothermal line of 68 degrees and 70 degrees Fahrenheit, with a preponderance of rain, and a bounteous supply of water at command for irrigation, there is no grain, fruit or flower of the temperate or semi-tropical zone that cannot be produced in this valley.

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ANGRY WATERS.

THE WALNUT GROVE DAM SWEEP OUT.

Forty People Believed to have Perished—Names of the Identified Dead—The Property Loss Fully Two Millions.

A Prescott dispatch of February 22d, gives the following scant details of the breaking of the great dam of the Walnut Grove Water Storage Company on the Hassayampa river. The water in the Walnut Grove dam has burst its walls and has swept with relentless rage over the country and over forty human beings are said to have perished.

Down the course of the river the mass of raging water has swept its deadly swath, and the little town of Wickenburg lies in its perilous path. The town is now a scene of desolation, and the fate of the little place is still unknown.

Following are some of those known to have perished: J. H. Haines, wife and four children, H. Boone, Miss Boone, John Silby, Joseph Reynolds, Mrs. McCarthy, T. McMillen.

The fine large storage dam was built across the Hassayampa river by the Walnut Grove Water Storage Company, two years ago, at a cost of \$300,000.

At 2 o'clock this morning the great pressure of the heavy flood forced the walls and the water swept everything before it.

The section miles below the reservoir and fifteen miles of flume was just approaching completion. It is estimated that the loss, including the enormous damage to property, will reach \$2,000,000.

The company has spent over \$800,000 on the new flume and on the enterprise of storing water for hydraulic mining, and machinery had arrived at the dam to commence operations next week.

The dam which held the waters back was 110 feet long at the base and 10 feet at the top, and was 110 feet thick at the base. It was a concrete dam, forming a lake three miles in length by three-fourths of a mile wide and 110 feet deep.

Lieutenant Brodie, in charge of the works, was absent at Phoenix attending the shipment of machinery to the works, and was saved.

The town to-night is in a state of the utmost excitement. The terrible doubt which surrounds the catastrophe has made every one nearly mad with anxiety.

No details can be obtained as yet, and it is impossible to give even an estimate of the ultimate result of the terrible and unwarmed visitation.

LIST OF THE DEAD.
Prescott, February 25.—Following is a partial list of the drowned: Hannah McCarthy, maid to Miss VanBuren and Miss Hamilton; Joe Reynolds, coachman; E. D. Nickel, laborer; Alexander McMillan, coachman for Mr. VanBuren; E. G. Wheeler, laborer; N. L. White, laborer; John Silby, visitor; John King, blacksmith; Patrick Smith, laborer; Patrick Barre, laborer; Thomas Brocken, laborer; W. Flannigan, laborer; Frederick Palmer, laborer; Casper Preston, laborer; John H. Haines, laborer; E. D. Haines, laborer; child; G. Russell, laborer; one Mexican and eight Chinamen.

Among the survivors are Miss Mary Hamilton, niece of Mr. VanBuren, president of the Walnut Grove Water Storage Co.; S. Redington, engineer; Paul Lansing, book-keeper; Robert Brown, Edmund Silbee, H. H. VanBuren, and daughter, and Lieut. Brodie, superintendent, were in Phoenix, having left for there on Tuesday preceding.

Besides the victims mentioned were 15 or 16 miners at work in the upper and lower dams, and a number of ranchers along the stream are missing. The number of lives lost will probably amount to 55 or 60. About a dozen bodies have been recovered, many of which were found 20 or 30 miles below the place where the flood overtook them. All of the remains are now being mutilated, while of some only fragments have been recovered. Many bodies have doubtless been buried in the sand, some torn to pieces and others carried far south. The flood to meet its end, hardly seen of him after the flood struck him. Another man was seen going up a hill and he had reached a point about 50 miles above the dam, where a mighty volume of water struck and killed him